THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) According to the export data compiled by the Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards, the exports level of some of the large companies has not been to the desired extent.

(b) The constraints in promoting exports from the large companies vary from sector to setcor. In order to involve large companies in the national task of promoting exports, a series of initiative have been taken in the field of fiscal policy, industrial policy, import-export policy and institutional backup. The major initiatives include *inter-alia* concessional rate of interest on export creidt, provision of additional REP licences for new products and new markets, increase in rate of agency commission, utilisation of 5 to 10% of foreign exchange earnings for undertaking export promotion activities, exemption of Trading Houses on furnishing Bank Guarantee, Tax benefits on export turnover and profits etc.

Inclusion of Manipuri Language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution

2087. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Manipur is demanding inclusion of Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Manipuri language has been recognised by the Sahitya Akademi as a full-fledged language;

(c) whether a literary association of Manipur has submitted a memorandum to the Government of India to include Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule; and

(d) whether the recognition of Manipuri and five other languages like Konkani, Maithali, Nepali, Dogri and Rajasthani is under Government's consideration; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi, has recognised the Manipuri language in 1971, for the purpose of implementing its programme of literary activities.

(c) In the recent past the Manipuri Sahitya Parishad, Silchar, Assam, has submitted a memorandum requesting inclusion of Manipuri language in the Eighth Schedule.

(d) The Government is of the view that inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule would create repercussions and reactions. However, it is the endeavour of the Government to develop the cultural and literary heritage of all the languages irrespective of their inclusion in the Eighth Schedule.

Rescheduling of Loans given to the Shipping Units

2088. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reschedule the loans given to the shipping units on the basis of the market value of the assets as per the rehabilitation package scheme; and

(b) if so, what are the benefits accruing to the ship-owners in view of the new policy to be adopted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO